

Patent Application of

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For

TITLE: Audio Device Incorporated into Printed Matter.

BACKGROUND & CROSS REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is entitled to benefit of Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/278,595 filed March 21, 2001.

BACKGROUND: FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH

The invention disclosed herein was not sponsored in any part by any federal agency. No governmental rights are reserved.

REFERENCE TO MICROFICHE APPLICATION

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND: FIELD OF INVENTION

The invention is in the field of books and magazines into which embodied microelectronics can be used to generate sound messages and musical tones.

BACKGROUND: DISCUSSION OF PRIOR ART

There are books and greeting cards in the market that employ musical elements to entertain or to send a message to the reader. Examples of this are the musical greeting cards and children's books such as the children's book with pop up toy described in Patent No. 5,681,199 (Morris, 1997). Moreover, Patent No. 5,569,868 (Leung, 1996) describes a sound-generating book that has a plurality of sensors, including transmitters and receivers positioned at various sections of the book for triggering sound generation; and Patent No. 5,538,430 (Smith et al, 1996) explains a self-reading electronic child's book. Finally, Patent No. 5,575,383 (Seeley, 1996) claims a container having an audible signaling device. However, none of the aforementioned inventions claim the embedding of a microelectronic chip into printed media, such as books and magazines; and that the microelectronic chip is switched on by a definite action of the reader, generating speech, music or other tonal signals. Furthermore, the prior art refers basically to musical greeting cards and children's books, and these are not the subject to which the present invention refers to. Furthermore, this invention is applied to adults' books and magazines and these are clearly not containers of audible signaling devices of speech, music or other tonal signals per se. Therefore, the present invention is not contained in the prior art.

SUMMARY

This invention relates to the embedding of a microelectronic chip into printed media, such as books and magazines such that the microelectronics is switched on by a definite action by the reader, such as opening the printed matter, or by means of an on /

off trigger mechanism. The invention may have various embodiments that can be to project speech, music or other tonal signals upon operation.

OBJECTS & ADVANTAGES

- This device allows a more holistic experience to the user of the printed medium.
It may be used to provide sound additions to the reading experience.
- This device can be used to make books and reading more attractive for adults.
- This device can be used to remember where you were in reading a book or magazine.
- This device can be used as an advertising tool.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Not Applicable

LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS

Not applicable

DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

This invention relates to the embodiment of a microelectronic device into a printed matter, such as a book or magazine. The device has an on/ off switch mechanism that may be triggered by the opening of said printed matter or by the use of an on /off trigger device. The device also contains a micro power supply that feeds energy to operate the device.

When the printed matter is opened, or the switch is operated causing the microelectronic device is switched on, the device will emit in audible tones an audio message. The message may be voice, music or a combination thereof. The device may also produce messages of varying length and complexity.

One embodiment of the device is the emission of a single message. There may be other embodiments that will customize the emitted messages to certain indicators of the printed matter; for example, opening of each chapter of a book may elicit a different message or music.

Other attributes may be attributable to the chip, such as a memory device to allow the reader to customize their own message, memory devices that allow the chip to indicate at what point the reader stopped reading the printed matter.

A range of embodiments related to the method of embedding the microelectronic device into the printed matter. The preferred embodiment is the fixing of the device to the inner edge of the spine and or cover of the book or magazine, an alternative embodiment may be the sandwiching of the device between blank pages of the printed matter.

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DESCRIPTION AND OPERATION OF ALTERNATIVE EMBODIMENTS

There is a range of different embodiments of the general model as applied to a wide range of reading / print media. The preferred embodiment is a chip that will play a short musical excerpt when a book is opened.

Although the present invention has been described with reference to the preferred embodiment thereof, it should be understood that it is in no way limited to the details of such embodiment but is capable of numerous modifications within the scope of the appended claims.

CONCLUSION, RAMIFICATION & SCOPE OF INVENTION

It should be emphasized that what is described in this application is the preferred embodiment of the invention, however, the invention is capable of numerous modifications within the scope of the appended claims. The scope of the invention will be based on the claims on such invention.